

BRITISH NAVAL WORK ON WARSHIPS, AWAITING CONFERENCE RESULTS; "OPEN DOOR" FOR CHINA FAVORED

Four Big Craft U. S. May Ask Abandonment Of Thorny Pact if Navy Is Cut Decision.

ALL NEW PLANS HELD IN CHECK Conference Action Revealed in Building Curb.

Conference Action Revealed in Building Curb.

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, November 18.—The admiralty announced today that it had ordered the cessation of all work on the four warships of the super-Hood type. The shipbuilding firms were notified yesterday not to incur any further liabilities on new naval construction until further notice from the admiralty.

These contracts were awarded only two weeks ago.

Officials explained that the practical effect of the admiralty's order would be the absolute cessation of all warship work pending the outcome of the Washington conference.

All New Ships Affected.

Three of the ships were to have been built on the Clyde and the fourth at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The admiralty order halts work on all the new warships authorized by parliament. Actual construction has not yet begun, although it is understood virtually all the preliminary work has been completed.

The four ships were to cost about \$2,000,000 in all, and the bulk of this sum will be saved by the government, as a comparatively small sum is due the contractors for the work already accomplished.

The admiralty order caused consternation along the Clyde, where there is much unemployment, which was expected to be alleviated by the work on the warships.

SHIP RATIO MAY BE FIXED.

Action of England Believed Result of Decision Here.

Action of the British government, announced from London today, in ordering work stopped on the four capital ships of the Hood type, the only capital shipbuilding program on which the British have been engaged since the armistice, came as no surprise here. There has been much doubt even before the conference on limitation of armament was called by President Harding, that the British would complete these ships. Their status as to construction on most American tabulations has been carried.

In any case, deliberations of the technical commission headed by Admiral Secretary Roosevelt and including highest naval officers of the five powers represented in the conference, appeared to have reached a point where the capital ship ratio may be considered settled, so far as the British and American fleets are concerned. The American proposal that Great Britain retain eighteen battleships and four battle cruisers and the United States retain sixteen battleships and four battle cruisers seems to have been accepted by the experts, which implies that the British will accept itself of that element of the program. The British admiralty order stopping work on the four super-Hood type ships is an added straw to show which way the wind is blowing.

Japan's Ratio Under Debate.

It is not clear, however, that the experts are as close to a decision as is claimed as to Japan's fleet strength. Formal announcement yesterday by Baron Kato, Japanese ambassador, expressing the belief that the Japanese fleet should aggregate 66 per cent of the United States fleet, was considered. Naval writers, expressing the opinion that the United States fleet should be reduced to 60 per cent of the Japanese fleet, are also being heard.

It has been said that the Japanese desired a fleet ratio to British or American strength of 70 instead of 60 per cent. Baron Kato did not disclose the actual figures, saying merely that a "ratio" was being considered. It is not clear that this would be viewed by American naval opinion as a modification of one of the four general principles laid down by Secretary Hughes as those applied by the American delegation in shaping the Japanese proposal, upon an entirely reasonable and practicable basis, to the end that the just interests of all shall be adequately guarded and the national security and defense shall be maintained.

There is a general proposition stated by Mr. Hughes was:

"That, in general, regard should be had to the existing naval strength of the powers concerned."

Proposal Considered Liberal.

This has application to the Japanese proposed modification as to tonnage ratio, it is said, inasmuch as Japan does not now possess even the 60 per cent allowed under the American proposals.

If the concrete terms of the Japanese conference proposal deal only with her desire to retain the new super-Hood type, just commissioned, and if that figures into a "slight" increase in total tonnage, it is possible an adjustment could be reached by reducing the list of specific ships laid down by Mr. Hughes as those to be retained by each power in the projected immediate reduction of existing forces. If the Japanese claim is for an actual higher ratio of tonnage, however, and there is some indication that it is, the question will be more difficult of treatment.

There is no doubt that American naval opinion regards the original proposal of 60 per cent for Japan as extremely liberal. In view of the place in the roll of nations, viewed from her economic or other interests as compared with those of Great Britain and the United States.

Another Point at Issue.

The plain fact of the matter seems to be in the judgment of those American officers who will express opinions that they feel entitled to such a naval force as might per-

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POLICE ABSOLVED IN TRAFFIC JAM

Commissioner Oyster Finds They Handled Situation "Efficiently as Possible."

Hip Pocket Defined As Liquor "Joint" When Flask Is Found

By the Associated Press.
MONTESANO, Wash., November 18.—A hip pocket was held to be a "joint" or illicit liquor resort, within the meaning of the Washington "Joint-Liquor" statute, when John M. Oyster, commissioner of the District of Columbia, yesterday testified in court.

PLAN LARGE HOTEL AT 15TH AND K STS.

F. H. Smith Co. Seek Extension of 110-Foot Limit to Permit Construction.

SENATE DISAGREES ON NEWBERRY CASE

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PARLEY DELEGATES NOW "DIGGING IN"

Intrenching With Arguments and Data to Support Positions.

By N. O. MESSENGER.
If it were appropriate to apply a simile, usually employed in a belligerent sense, to a peace conference, it might be said that today the several delegations to the arms limitation conference have reached the "digging-in" stage. That is to say, they are intrenching themselves with arguments and technical data to support their positions and policies.

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BEER AS MEDICINE DENIED BY SENATE IN VOTE OF 56-22

Last Hope of "Wets" Fades and Conference Report Is Adopted.

KILLS PALMER RULING ON MEDICINAL USES

Physicians Limited to 100 Liquor Prescriptions Every 3 Months. Bill Goes to President.

The final legislative step for the outlawing of beer and malt liquors for medicinal purposes was taken today by the Senate.

By a vote of 56 to 22 the Senate adopted the conference report on the so-called anti-beer bill and the measure now goes to the President, the House having acted some time ago.

Twelve republicans and ten democrats voted against the conference report.

How They Voted.

The republican opponents were Senators Brandegee, du Pont, Edge, Johnson (Calif.), La Follette, Lodge, McLean, Penrose, Phelps, Shortridge, Wadsworth and Weller. The democrats were Senators Brannan, Gerry, King, Flanders, Rankin, Shields, Stanley, Underwood, Walsh (Mass.) and Watson (G.).

Two others, Senators Reed, democrat, Missouri, and Moses, republican, New Hampshire, were paired against the bill.

Twenty-three republicans and twenty-three democrats supported the measure, while it was announced that Senators Harrell, republican, Minnesota; Kenyon, republican, Minnesota; Lenroot, republican, Wisconsin; McCormick, republican, Illinois; Sutherland, republican, Virginia; and Fletcher, democrat, Florida, who were absent and paired, favored the bill.

Effect of Action.

The bill will set aside the ruling by Former Attorney General Palmer, who, two days before he retired, advised the prohibition enforcement officials that there was nothing in the Volstead act to prohibit the prescription of beer and light wines for medicinal purposes.

The anti-beer legislation has been before Congress since last June. The House accepted the compromise reached by the conference in August, but it followed a bitter controversy in the Senate, waged by a small but determined group, who contended that the bill struck a fatal blow at personal rights because it permitted search and seizure without warrants.

The bill, which would authorize the search of private homes without warrants, but this feature was eliminated in conference.

Prescriptions Are Limited.

The bill limits physicians to 100 prescriptions for liquor each three months and specifies that not more than a quart of spirituous or vinous liquor, containing in no case more than one-half pint of alcohol may be prescribed for one person in any one year.

Importation of liquors is barred by the bill until the supply on hand in the United States shall no longer be sufficient to meet the current need for non-beverage uses.

CABINET TAKES UP REORGANIZATION

Secretary Fall Denies Reports of Friction Over Proposed Changes.

Reorganization of the government departments and agencies, which was begun early in the present administration, was one of the most important topics brought up for discussion during the cabinet meeting at the White House today. It was learned following the meeting that the subject was introduced by Secretary of Interior Fall, who said he wished to take occasion to deny printed reports that there was friction between him, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and Secretary of Navy Denby and Chief Counsel Walter Brown of the committee engaged in making plans for the reorganization.

Secretary Fall stated that he has had no dealings with Mr. Brown regarding the reorganization plan, that he met him only once and then they talked for only five or ten minutes. He said he had no idea of being any of the agencies in the pathway of those engaged in the reorganization planning. He stated that he is in hearty sympathy with the general plan, as far as his department is concerned, he is very willing that the pension bureau, the patent office and the Department of Agriculture, under the Department of the Interior, be moved from the jurisdiction of the interior Department and placed where they belong.

Secretary Fall is, however, extremely anxious for the placing of the forestry bureau, which now is under the Department of Agriculture, under the Department of the Interior. He explained that the nature of the work of this bureau is such that it naturally places it with his department.

Secretary of the Navy Denby stated that he had no dealings with Mr. Brown regarding the reorganization plan, that he met him only once and then they talked for only five or ten minutes. He said he had no idea of being any of the agencies in the pathway of those engaged in the reorganization planning. He stated that he is in hearty sympathy with the general plan, as far as his department is concerned, he is very willing that the pension bureau, the patent office and the Department of Agriculture, under the Department of the Interior, be moved from the jurisdiction of the interior Department and placed where they belong.

Following a lengthy session of the board of District Commissioners today, no announcement was made by the Commissioners relative to the appointment of a new police superintendent for the District.

The Wonderful Illumination of Washington

This was one of the features of the Armistice day ceremonies—a spectacle which probably never will be repeated. Splendid photographs were taken, and these are superbly reproduced in

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Secretary Davis urges higher pay for District freemen. Page 17
Citizens commend Maj. Cessford.